

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND THE GOVERNMENT
OF ETHIOPIA CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RE-
GIONAL LIAISON OFFICE FOR AFRICA OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER IN ADDIS ABABA

WHEREAS the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (hereinafter referred to as the "United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" or alternatively "UNHCR") has decided to establish a Regional Liaison Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (hereinafter referred to as the "Regional Liaison Office") in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and

WHEREAS the Imperial Ethiopian Government (hereinafter referred to as "the Government") welcomes the establishment of the Regional Liaison Office and undertakes to assist the UNHCR in securing all the necessary facilities for its establishment; and

WHEREAS the Government acceded on 22 July 1947 to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946 (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"); and

WHEREAS the UNHCR, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly pursuant to Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations, is an integral part of the United Nations Organization whose status, privileges and immunities are regulated by the Convention;

NOW THEREFORE the UNHCR and the Government have entered into this agreement through their undersigned duly appointed representatives.

SAH *EG*

A R T I C L E 1

FUNCTION

The Regional Liaison Office will exercise functions as assigned by the High Commissioner in relation to the activities of the UNHCR in the region including the establishment and maintenance of relations between the UNHCR and the other International Organisations situated in Ethiopia.

A R T I C L E 2

STATUS OF THE STAFF

1. Apart from the privileges and immunities conferred upon the staff of the UNHCR under Article V, Section 18 of the Convention, the Staff of the Regional Liaison Office, excepting those that are assigned to hourly rates, shall enjoy in the territory of Ethiopia the following privileges, immunities and exemptions:

a) Immunity from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity;

b) Immunity from seizure of their personal or official baggage;

c) Immunity together with members of their families from immigration restrictions and alien registration;

d) Repatriation facilities in time of international crises, together with members of their families as would be accorded to diplomatic envoys.

e) The right for the staff, other than Ethiopia nationals and permanent foreign residents of Ethiopia, to take out of Ethiopia, funds in non-Ethiopian currencies without any restrictions or limitations, provided that they can show good cause for their lawful possession of such funds.

f) Exemption for the staff, other than Ethiopian nationals and permanent foreign residents of Ethiopia, from import duty and

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other levies and from prohibitions and restrictions on imports for their furniture and personal effects within six months after first taking up their posts in Ethiopia or their permanent appointment to them. This exemption includes one automobile upon first installation. It is understood, however, that articles imported under such exemption will not be sold in Ethiopia except under conditions agreed with the Government;

g) In addition to the immunities, privileges and exemptions for which provisions are made herein, the Representative and the Deputy Representative of the High Commissioner shall enjoy, in respect of themselves their spouses and minor children, such privileges, exemptions and facilities as are accorded in international law and practice to diplomatic representatives of comparable rank. The Representative and the Deputy Representative of the High Commissioner shall, for this purpose be incorporated by the Imperial Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs into the Diplomatic List.

2. The privileges and immunities for which provision is made in this Agreement are granted for the purpose of carrying out effectively the aims and purposes of the Regional Liaison Office and not for the personal benefit of the staff themselves. The Representative of the High Commissioner shall have the right and duty to waive the immunity of any staff in any case where the immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interest of the Regional Liaison Office. In the case of the Representative of the High Commissioner, the High Commissioner himself shall have the right to waive the immunity.

A R T I C L E 3

INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

The provisions of the Convention and of this Agreement shall, where they relate to the same subject matter be treated wherever possible as complementary, so that the provisions of both shall be applicable and neither narrow the effect of the other; but in any case of absolute conflict the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

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ARTICLE 4
FINAL PROVISIONS

1. This Agreement shall come into force on the date of its signature by both Parties as shown below.
2. This Agreement shall remain in force while the Regional Liaison Office remains established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
3. This Agreement may be modified by mutual consent. Each Party shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any request by the other Party for its modification.

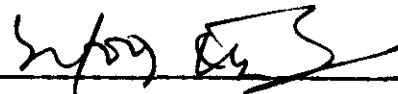
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly authorized representatives of the UNHCR and the Government respectively have, on behalf of both Parties signed the present Agreement in Geneva and Addis Ababa respectively, in two copies in the English language.

For the Office of the United
Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees

For the Imperial Ethiopian Government



Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan
United Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees
Geneva, 18 July 1966



Ketema Yifru
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Addis Ababa, July 7, 1966